



Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

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Issue 26 Week Ending September 7, 2008

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Agricultural Summary

The days are becoming shorter and the nights are becoming cooler. The days suitable for work 6.4. Hay prices are a major concern amongst livestock producers.

Field Crops Summary

Box Elder reports receiving some rain last week. Strong winds hit several parts of the county as a front moved in. The strong winds caused some damage to trees which were uprooted and buildings which were damaged. Rainfall from the storm on Sunday and Monday ranged from about .80 inches in the East third of the county to just a few rain drops in the Grouse Creek area. Much of the dry farm areas in Blue Creek, Hansel Valley, and Snowville got about .30 inches of rain which was not enough to allow them to plant fall wheat. Some dry land grain producers have moisture 5 or 6 inches below the surface, but most are hoping for more moisture in the next 10 days before they drill. Planting of fall grain on irrigated ground has started with some fields emerged. There has also been an increase in planting of new alfalfa due to the strong price and high demand this year. Corn continues to mature while producers will begin to harvest corn silage this week. Alfalfa seed producers are also beginning to harvest this week and reports are that the crop looks really good. The peach harvest is in full swing and the yields are moderate. Emery County reports that the continued dry weather has allowed producers to get crops harvested and put up in good time and quality. Fall field work is progressing very nicely. Stock water supplies in some areas are in good shape and, in others, very short. Irrigated crops look good this year. Feed on mountain ranges was adequate, but has dried out because of lack of precipitation. Feed available on desert ranges will be about average this year. Summit County reports first major rain storm helped green up pastures and range land this past week. However, frost has finally hit the county on a regular basis. Uintah County reports good rains early in the week refilled stock water ponds on rangelands while cooler weather has slowed the crop progress. Iron County reports that the dry weather has dried out ranges and soil moisture. Sevier County reports a light frost last week slightly damaged the warm season crops in some areas.

Livestock Summary

Box Elder reports livestock producers continue to worry about range conditions, prices and very high feed costs. Farmers are talking about culling down their herds this fall because they cannot afford to feed their cows over the winter. Many are buying straw or other filler type feeds to try and stretch the alfalfa that they were able to produce.

**Crop Progress
for Week Ending September 7, 2008**

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Onions Harvested	43	25	39	35
Barley Harvested (Grain)	88	84	96	95
Oats Harvested (Grain)	70	64	87	85
Corn Dent Stage	24	14	56	43
Alfalfa Third Cutting	57	38	90	76
Peach Harvested	69	43	68	67

**Crop & Livestock Condition
for Week Ending September 7, 2008**

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	4	12	29	46	9

**Soil Moisture
for Week Ending September 7, 2008**

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	34	60	0
Subsoil	7	39	54	0
Stock water supplies	5	21	74	0